



Minnesota Winter Hazard Awareness Week 2012





MINNESOTA WINTER HAZARD AWARENESS WEEK - NOVEMBER 5 - 9, 2012

The winter of 2011-12 was relatively mild and dry for Minnesota – but don't be fooled – the previous winter of 2010-2011 gave Minnesota its fourth snowiest winter on record! Everyone in Minnesota still needs to prepare for the outdoor hazards of a cold, snowy, icy winter and the indoor hazards that occur *every* winter.

To help do that, the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, along with the National Weather Service and other state agencies, sponsors the annual "<u>Winter Hazard Awareness Week</u>" each fall to remind people to take simple steps that lead to an enjoyable and safe winter season.

The week-long event includes a media campaign, online informational materials and locally sponsored public presentations. The campaign focuses on specific topics for each day and can be used in conjunction with school, church, or other civic education or safety programs. The information is available throughout the season.

WINTER HAZARD AWARENESS WEEK TOPICS 2012

- Monday, November 5:
 - <u>Winter Weather Overview</u> Ice storms, blizzards, sub-zero temperatures, winter weather watches and warnings and wind-chill
- Tuesday, November 6:
 - Outdoor Winter Safety Safety on ice, snowmobile safety, hypothermia and frostbite
- Wednesday, November 7:
 - <u>Winter Fire Safety</u> Winter and holiday fire safety, alternative heat sources, smoke detectors, cooking safety, candle and decorations
- Thursday, November 8:
 - Indoor Winter Safety Carbon monoxide, radon, mold and general home care
- Friday, November 9:
 - <u>Winter Driving</u> auto safety, snowplows, road conditions, using 5-1-1, winter driving tips, car survival kits and calling 911 on a cell phone

2012 "WHAT'S YOUR WINTER?" PHOTO CONTEST

Along with this information, Minnesota Winter Hazard Awareness Week also sponsors the annual "What's your Winter?" photo contest for both adults and youth. The contest, which runs from December 2012 through February 2013, invites members of the public to show us how they enjoy their safe Minnesota winter by sharing their best digital photos throughout the season.

Viewers can upload their photos and then vote for their favorites at the end of the contest. Prizes will be awarded to the top vote getters in four categories in both adult and youth divisions. For contest details and rules, check on the HSEM <u>Winter Weather Safety website</u>. For more information, contact:

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